

From the desk of Cynthia Day; New Milford in **Support** of RAISED HB:
6511 An Act Concerning the Recommendations of the Connecticut
Sentencing Commission Regarding the Enhanced Penalty For the Sale or
Possession of Drugs Near School, Day Care Centers and Public Housing
Projects and additions:

Judiciary Committee Members:

Although I am fortunate enough to live in New Milford, I cannot believe that the legislative system cannot see the difference in DRUG FREE ZONES in inner cities. In certain urban In certain urban and "urban-like" suburban areas is very hard to even FIND an area that is NOT a drug free zone.

I visit Hartford often, I love my capital. My "kids" and I have sat thru many hearings. I instill citizens to vote and I am confident that this public hearing will bring forth testimonies of individuals inflicted by present laws. It is your duty as an elected official to hear and ACT on these testimonies. **Public Housng** needs to be **REMOVED** from Drug Free School Zones. Last session there was bipartisan support to remove public housing. Also, there should be a vote on a new **Racial Ethnic Impact Statement (R.E.I.S)**. The R.E.I.S will give **up-to-date information on the continued racial bias of drug free school zones in practice.**

Why is it possible that a passerby, with a small amount of personal "stash," would be sentenced to a 3 year **MANDATORY MINIMUM**? This is **NON VIOLENT** offence in the first place, let alone there may not be enough cerebration of said person to engage in illegal activities. **ELIMINATE MANDATORY MINIMUMS** to provide the courts the ability to impose substance abuse treatment for offenders.

We are good kind state, one of the best acknowledge in our nation. Please, do not harm more families with the **MANDATORY MINIMUMS**. I would love to see the tax dollars saved used for rehabilitation centers and our education system.

I plea that all material brought forth at this hearing be taken into consideration and that **HB6511 be passed.**

Thank you for you time.

Cynthia Day